

CLAIMS

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1 1. A method for re-formatting computer files, comprising
2 the steps:

inputting a\data file into a computer;

determining if the data file is compatible with the computer or applications which exist on the computer;

~~if the data file is not compatible with the computer,
transmitting the data file over the Internet to a
universal server; and~~

the universal server, transforming the data file into a format compatible with the computer, and sending the transformed data file back to the computer.

2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the transforming step includes the steps of, the universal server identifying the type of file, and transforming the file into a different format of the same type.

3. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

a user of the computer identifying user requirements; and
transmitting the user requirements to the universal
server; and wherein

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9 the transforming step includes the step of re-formatting
10 the file in accordance with the user requirements.

1 4. A method according to Claim 1, wherein, when data
2 needs to be converted, the data are sent to a universal
3 conversion server; the universal conversion server checks
4 user requirements; if the universal conversion server
5 finds that the service cannot convert a certain file, the
6 service looks in a computer description; the computer
7 description can be located on the computer or on a
8 universal conversion server database.

1 5. A method according to Claim 1, wherein, when a
2 computer's operating system is not compatible with a
3 program, the program is sent to a Universal Driver where
4 the program is to be formatted; when being formatted, the
5 program is looked over to identify components of the
6 program including links to the program source code, the
7 program's executable code, the program's file name;
8 entering data to a database of source codes, where many
9 source codes are held; and if the same name exists among
10 more than one program in the database UCS reads the
11 information from the description module.

1 6. A method according to Claim 1, wherein file gets
2 converted from one application format or version into
3 another

1 7. A universal program conversion method, comprising the
2 steps:
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entering data into the computer (either from network);

checking to determine whether the data format is compatible with the operating system(OS)

if the format is not compatible, sending the data to the Universal Driver;

on the Universal Driver, reformatting the data to a format compatible to the OS (for example, reformatting from OS in Apple to OS in Intel);

after the reformatting step, sending the data to the universal formatting server, since even data reformatting compatible with the user's OS still needs to be converted to the format suitable for the user (e.g., reformatting processing format from WordPro to MSWord);

if it is determined that the data are compatible with the system, then checking to determine whether reformatting is necessary to reformat the data;

if the data do not need to be reformatted, sending the data as the user requests; and otherwise, sending the data to the universal server; and this server checks whether the data are executables -- i.e., whether the data were obtained after compilation; if the data are executables, then checking the Universal Driver to determine whether the data can be formatted by the Universal Driver; if the data can be so formatted, then formatting the data at the Universal Driver.

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36 sending the formatted data to the user; if the data can
37 not be formatted at the Universal Driver, then checking
38 to determine if the source code exists on a storage of
39 source code; if the source code exists, then recompiling
40 the data in a new OS, and then sending the data to the
41 user; checking for instructions to format data; after the
42 checking step, formatting the data are formatted
43 according to the instructions, and then sending the data
44 to the user.

1 8. A system for re-formatting computer files, comprising:

2
3 a computer having input means for receiving a data file;

4
5 means for determining if the data file is compatible with
6 the computer;

7
8 a universal server for reformatting data; and

9
10 means for transmitting the data file over the Internet to
11 the universal server, if the data file is not compatible
12 with the computer; and

13
14 wherein the universal server includes means for
15 transforming the data file into a format compatible with
16 the computer, and means for sending the transformed data
17 file back to the computer.

1 9. A system according to Claim 8, wherein the
2 transforming means includes means for identifying the
3 type of file, and for transforming the file into a
4 different format of the same type.

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1 10. A system according to Claim 8, wherein a user of the
2 computer identifying user requirements; and the system
3 further comprises:

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5 means for transmitting the user requirements to the
6 universal server; and wherein

7
8 the transforming means includes means for re-formatting
9 the file in accordance with the user requirements.

1 11. A system according to Claim 8, wherein, when data
2 needs to be converted, the data are sent to a universal
3 conversion server; the universal conversion server checks
4 user requirements; if the universal conversion server
5 finds that the service cannot convert a certain file, the
6 service looks in a computer description; the computer
7 description can be located on the computer or on a
8 universal conversion server database.

1 12. A program storage device readable by machine,
2 tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable
3 by the machine to perform method steps for re-formatting
4 computer files, the method steps comprising:

5
6 inputting a data file into a computer;

7
8 determining if the data file is compatible with the
9 computer;

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1 if the data file is not compatible with the computer,
2 transmitting the data file over the Internet to a
3 universal server; and

4
5 the universal server, transforming the data file into a
6 format compatible with the computer, and sending the
7 transformed data file back to the computer.

1 13. A program storage device according to Claim 12,
2 wherein the transforming step includes the steps of, the
3 universal server identifying the type of file, and
4 transforming the file into a different format of the same
5 type.

1 14. A program storage device according to Claim 12,
2 further comprising the steps of:

3
4 a user of the computer identifying user requirements; and
5
6 transmitting the user requirements to the universal
7 server; and wherein

8
9 the transforming step includes the step of re-formatting
10 the file in accordance with the user requirements.

1 15. A program storage device according to Claim 12,
2 wherein, when data needs to be converted, the data are
3 sent to a universal conversion server; the universal
4 conversion server checks user requirements; if the
5 universal conversion server finds that the service cannot
6 convert a certain file, the service looks in a computer
7 description; the computer description can be located on

